

Message Text

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12

ORIGIN CU-04

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-03 AGR-10 /028 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

UNCLAS STATE 191441

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: OEXC; EAGR

SUBJECT: VISIT TO SYRIA OF USDA SCIENTIST HUBERT COOPER

- -

1. DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN APPROVAL UNDER PL 80-402 FOR DR. HUBERT COOPER, RESEARCH AGRONOMIST, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, TO ACCEPT INVITATION EXTENDED HIM BY GOVERNMENT OF SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC TO VISIT THAT COUNTRY SEPTEMBER 1-15. COOPER WILL STUDY BREEDING TECHNIQUES AND PROCEDURES USED BY SYRIAN SCIENTISTS TO DEVELOP COTTON WITH HIGH LEVELS OF TOLERANCE TO VERTICILLIUM WILT AND WILL OBSERVE PERFORMANCE OF PREVIOUSLY EXCHANGED COTTONS NOW BEING TESTED IN RESEARCH PROGRAMS IN SYRIA. HE WILL ALSO CONSULT WITH U.S.S.R. SCIENTISTS WHOSE VISIT WILL COINCIDE WITH HIS.

2. USDA WILL CONTINUE TO PAY COOPER SALARY WHILE GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA WILL PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION AND EXPENSES. AIR TICKET HAS ALREADY BEEN SENT TO COOPER. TO HANDLE EXPENSES WHILE IN SYRIA USDA REQUESTS EMBASSY ARRANGE WITH GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA FOR DEPOSIT OF APPROPRIATE FUNDS WITH EMBASSY AS A RECEIPT TO USDA APPROPRIATION NO. 1261400
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WITH NOTIFICATION THEREOF ON FORM SF-1221 AND CONFIR-

MATION BY CABLE. THIS PROCEDURE IS APPROVED BY USDA AND
DEPARTMENT. UPON COMPLETION OF COOPER TRAVEL ANY FUNDS
REMAINING WILL BE RETURNED TO GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA BY
EMBASSY.

3. AS ALTERNATIVE TO DEPOSIT OF FUNDS WITH EMBASSY,
GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA COULD PAY COOPER EXPENSES "IN KIND",
I.E., PAY EXPENSES DIRECTLY WITHOUT COOPER HAVING TO
ACCEPT ACTUAL FUNDS.

4. PERSON CONCERNED WITH COOPER TRIP IS DR. A. SHAMI,
DIRECTOR, SYRIAN COTTON BUREAU, ALEPPO. KISSINGER

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NNN

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